



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
HEALTH / AGRICULTURE BUILDING
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TO: All County Extension Agents, Show Secretaries and Veterinarians

FROM: Nancy E. Halpern, DVM
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DATE: April 10, 2008

SUBJECT: ***2008 Fair/Show Animal Health Recommendations, Regulations and Forms***

Following is information from the New Jersey Department of Agriculture (NJDA) concerning recommendations, regulations and forms for the 2008 fair/show season. Individual fair/show management may impose additional or more stringent health requirements as deemed necessary. As in the past, all persons associated with the 2008 fair and show season are encouraged to remain vigilant for potential cases of unusual diseases or any suspicious or unusual conditions in an animal, herd or flock. In the event of such observations, please contact a veterinarian and the NJDA Division of Animal Health (609-292-3965) or the USDA Veterinary Services office (609-259-8387) IMMEDIATELY. If outbreaks of infectious diseases warrant additional restrictions on the movement of any species of animals into and/or through New Jersey, emergency rules may be enacted and all fair/show managers will be notified. Additional security measures should also be considered to prevent unauthorized individuals from handling animals and/or their feed or water. Anyone acting in a manner that seems inappropriate or suspicious should immediately be reported to local law enforcement and the NJDA Division of Animal Health. The following signs may indicate an animal has been exposed to an infectious or toxic agent:

- Excessive discharges from body orifices
- Off-feed or weight loss
- Skin lesions including blisters, pustules or discoloration around animal's mouth, nose, teats or hooves
- Abnormal behavior; excessive vocalization, depression
- Excessive urination, excessive salivation; excessive tearing
- Lameness, off balance, falling down, difficulty rising; circling, partial or complete paralysis
- Muscle tremors, seizures
- Sneezing, open mouthed breathing, gasping for air, nasal discharge, coughing, difficulty breathing
- Diarrhea, vomiting, constipation, excessive dry manure
- Twisting of head and neck
- Foaming at mouth or nose
- Head pressing, stargazing, no menace response, uneven pupil sizes
- Drooping wings, feather or hair loss, excessive loss of mane and tail hairs
- Partial to complete drop in egg production, production of thin-shelled eggs
- Swelling of tissues around eyes, neck or legs; cloudiness of eyes
- Abortions, still births, weak neonates
- Abnormal body temperature
- Unusual ticks or maggots
- Staggering, falling or central nervous system disorders

Animal Health Documentation

Fair/show management is responsible for ensuring that animals to be exhibited enter the grounds in good health and with proper documentation:

- **Certificates of Veterinary Inspection (CVIs)** - CVIs are completed and signed by veterinarians for animal being transported interstate. (i.e. Pennsylvania to New Jersey) **CVIs are valid for 30 days** from the date of examination. Veterinary Services (VS) Form 9-3 (Report of Sales of Hatching Eggs, Chicks and Poultry) or Form 9-2 (Flock Selecting and Testing Report) may be used for poultry in lieu of the Certificate of Veterinary Inspection. The official CVI shall include the following:
 - Complete name and address of exhibitor
 - Origin of the livestock
 - Complete name and address of the fair/show
 - Destination of the livestock
 - Description of the livestock. Cattle and swine shall be identified by electronic ID, ear tag, tattoo or registration name and number. Horses shall be identified by physical description and/or tattoo. Sheep and goats shall be identified by USDA approved official identification (ear tag and/or approved registry tattoo). For questions regarding the USDA's Mandatory Identification of Sheep and Goats regulation, or to obtain official identification tags for sheep and goats, call the USDA, APHIS, VS office at (609) 259-8387 or www.animalagriculture.org/scrapie. Other livestock shall be identified by ear tag, registration name and number, name and physical description or microchip.
 - Statement that the examining veterinarian personally inspected the animals described and found them free from visible symptoms of infectious, contagious and/or communicable disease or known exposure thereto within 30 days of shipment.
- **Animal Health Certificates (AHC)** - AHCs (enclosed for replicating and use) can be issued by a veterinarian (prior to or at the fair/show) and signed by both the veterinarian and the animal owner. ***This form may only be used for animals native to New Jersey attending New Jersey fairs/shows.*** Based on his/her knowledge and judgment, the examining veterinarian must indicate on the form whether the AHC is valid for 30, 60 or 90 days from date of examination. Animals listed on an AHC must be identified by an ear tag, tattoo, or other permanent identification or description (coat color, markings, age, etc...). ***AHCs are NOT VALID for interstate shipment of animals.***
- **4-H Poultry, Rabbit, or Cavy Health Form** – This form (enclosed for replicating and use) can be used for the species indicated and can be completed by the 4-H leader or other qualified adult within 30 days prior to the exhibition at a 4-H sponsored show or demonstration. Animals listed on a 4-H Poultry, Rabbit, or Cavy Health Form, must be identified by an ear tag, tattoo, or other permanent identification or description (coat color, markings, age, etc...).

If needed, additional copies of the Animal Health Certificate and the 4-H Poultry, Rabbit or Cavy Health Form can be found at the following website: <http://www.state.nj.us/agriculture/divisions/ah/news/fairsshow.html>

Please note:

The NJDA recommends that fair/show management arrange for veterinary medical assistance for the duration of the exhibition and all animal exhibitors should be made aware of the local veterinarian(s) willing to provide medical attention for the animals being exhibited. Any animal showing obvious clinical signs of warts, ringworm, foot rot, parasites, pink eye, enlarged and inflamed lymph nodes, draining abscesses or open wounds must not be exhibited or allowed to remain on fair/show grounds. All eligible livestock species should be current on rabies vaccination and proof of vaccination by a veterinarian should be provided upon entry.

It is recommended that fair/show management arranged specified times when a veterinarian will be

available to inspect incoming animals in need of a CVI or AHC. Exhibitors should be instructed to bring the animals for exam at those specified times and that exam costs will be the owner's responsibility. Fair/show management or the local agricultural extension office may also assist exhibitors by arranging a one-day inspection date where an accredited veterinarian can travel to each of the exhibitors' farms to perform examinations and issue CVIs.

Food Safety

Any food animal exhibited should be accompanied by a Drug Use Form. This form will certify that:

- The animal has not been treated with drugs, OR
- The animal does not contain a drug for which the withdrawal period has not yet elapsed per label directions.

A copy of this form is enclosed for replicating and use. The form should be made available to in-state and out-of-state exhibitors since it helps protect the consumer and teaches exhibitors responsibility in the management and care of food animals. (This documentation should follow the food animal to its final slaughter destination.) If the animal has received drugs or medications for which the withdrawal period has not yet elapsed, this must be documented on the form. The animal identification, drug name, date(s) of administration, the route of administration, and the drug withdrawal time prior to slaughter must be documented. Animals cannot be turned away from the show if they received medications. The drugs simply need to be documented, and the withdrawal time clearly stated. *Certain drugs, such as gentamicin, are illegal for use in food animals.* It is the responsibility of the animal producer to check with his or her veterinarian as to what medications can be given. It is recommended that the exhibitors become educated about the proper use of antibiotics and other medications.

Public Health Concerns

Interactions between people and animals provide valuable and enjoyable educational experiences that should be encouraged. However, during such contact, there is some risk of disease transmission. To protect both humans and animals, the New Jersey Department of Agriculture in consultation with the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services encourages all fairs/shows to implement the following precautionary steps to protect both visitors and animals from disease.

- Provide hand-cleaning stations/facilities for use prior to and after contact with animals
 - Provide running water or antibacterial hand wipes to clean dirt off hands
 - Provide *alcohol-based hand rubs* for use on clean hands
- Maintain safe and clean stations/facilities to protect visitors and animals
 - Trash cans should be available and emptied regularly
- Post signs indicating the location of hand-cleaning stations/facilities
- Do not allow human food or drink in animal contact areas
- Forbid smoking in animal contact areas, and at hand-cleaning stations/facilities
- Ensure that no feed is fed to the animals unless specifically provided by the fair

In addition, the "Lose the Germs" poster series distributed to fairs/shows several years ago and intended for posting at hand-cleaning stations/facilities is available for download at:

<http://www.nj.gov/agriculture/divisions/ah/news/biosecurity.html>.

Recent Travel in Foreign Countries

Fair/show attendees should be questioned prior to entry onto the fair/show grounds about recent travel to foreign countries to determine potential exposure to disease-infected livestock and poultry. Anyone who has been within one mile of foreign livestock or poultry areas, zoos, or game parks in the past five days should be considered potentially exposed. These individuals should have their shoes cleaned and disinfected at the fair/show entry point and discouraged from visiting the livestock and poultry. Vinegar should be offered to disinfect watches, eyeglasses, etc. If fair/show grounds are very open, and no single entry point/control point can be established to question attendees, it is recommended that attendees not be allowed to get close to or touch the animals.

II. Specie Specific Health Regulations and Recommendations

Regulations (identified by an asterisk*) must be enforced.

NEW JERSEY CATTLE:

- Shall be accompanied by an official CVI or AHC

***IMPORTED CATTLE:**

- Shall be accompanied by an official CVI
- Shall be negative to a tuberculosis test within 60 days of entry – Cattle from an accredited free State, zone, or herd are exempt from testing.
- Six months of age or over shall be negative to an official brucellosis test within 30 days of entry – brucellosis vaccinated heifers under 14 months of age, steers, and spayed heifers are exempt from brucellosis testing. Cattle to be imported that originate from a certified brucellosis-free herd are exempt from brucellosis testing.
- From states with endemic anaplasmosis or bluetongue must test negative within 30 days prior to entry.

NEW JERSEY SWINE:

- Shall be accompanied by an official CVI or AHC

***IMPORTED SWINE:**

- Shall be accompanied by an official CVI
- Shall be negative to an official brucellosis test within 30 days prior to entry – swine from a validated brucellosis-free state or a validated brucellosis-free herd are exempt from testing
- Shall be negative to an official pseudorabies test within 30 days prior to entry – swine from a pseudorabies State IV or V State/Area or originate from a qualified pseudorabies negative herd are exempt from testing.

NEW JERSEY HORSES:

- Shall be accompanied by an official CVI or AHC
- Shall have had a negative official test (AGID or ELISA) for equine infectious anemia (Coggins test) within the past 24 months – horses younger than 6 months and accompanied by a dam that has a negative official Coggins test are exempt from testing.
- That are to change owners via sale, barter, or trade – shall have a negative Coggins test within 90 days prior to exchange.

***IMPORTED HORSES:**

- Shall be accompanied by an official CVI
- Shall have had a negative official test (AGID or ELISA) for equine infectious anemia (Coggins test) within the past 12 months – horses younger than 6 months and accompanied by a dam that has a negative official Coggins test are exempt from testing.
- That are to change owners via sale, barter, or trade – shall have a negative Coggins test within 90 days prior to exchange.

NEW JERSEY SHEEP:

- Shall be accompanied by an official CVI or AHC
- * Sexually intact sheep must be identified by USDA approved official identification (approved ear tag, tattoo and/or microchip (owner must provide microchip reader).

***IMPORTED SHEEP:**

- Shall be accompanied by an official CVI
- Sexually intact sheep must be identified by USDA approved official identification (approved ear tag, tattoo and/or microchip (owner must provide microchip reader).
- From states with endemic Bluetongue must be tested negative within 30 days prior to entry

NEW JERSEY GOATS:

- Shall be accompanied by an official CVI or AHC
- * All sexually intact registered goats, all sexually intact dairy goats, and sexually intact goats that have been raised on the same premises as sheep must be identified by USDA approved official identification - approved ear tag and/or tattoo. A microchip is also acceptable but it must be a USDA approved device. If a microchip is used for ID, the animal owner must bring the microchip reader to the fair.

***IMPORTED GOATS:**

- Shall be accompanied by an official CVI
All sexually intact registered goats, all sexually intact dairy goats, and sexually intact goats that have been raised on the same premises as sheep must be identified by USDA approved official identification - approved ear tag and/or tattoo. A microchip is also acceptable but it must be a USDA approved device. If a microchip is used for ID, the animal owner must bring the microchip reader to the fair.
- All goats to be imported shall be negative to an official tuberculosis test within 60 days prior to entry. Goats from an accredited-free state or zone or from an accredited herd shall be exempt from testing.
 - For an accredited herd, the CVI shall include the date on which the herd of origin was last tuberculin tested, and a statement by the accredited veterinarian that the goats to be imported were:
 - included in the most recent test of the herd of origin and testing with negative results occurred within one year prior to the date of movement
 - OR that
 - they are natural additions to the herd.
- All goats to be imported four months of age or over shall be negative to an official brucellosis test within 30 day prior to entry. Wethers shall be exempt from brucellosis testing.
 - For a certified brucellosis free herd, the CVI shall include the date on which the herd of origin was last brucellosis tested, the type of test performed, the accession number and the name of the laboratory, and a statement by the accredited veterinarian that the goats imported were:
 - included in the most recent test of the herd of origin and testing with negative results occurred within one year prior to the date of movement
 - OR that
 - they are natural additions to the herd.

Please note: In lieu of brucellosis testing, the State Veterinarian will allow goats that do not originate from brucellosis free herds to attend New Jersey fairs/shows **IF** the owner contacts the New Jersey Division of Animal Health at 609 292-3965 between 8:45-4:30 M-F to obtain a permit number to be included on the CVI. Owners will need to provide the following information:

- Name of owner
- National Premise Identification number or scrapie identification number
- Address of premises of origin
- Address of premises of destination
- Number of goats to enter into New Jersey
- Date of movement.

NEW JERSEY LLAMA (includes all species of the genus Lama)

- Shall be accompanied by an official CVI or AHC

***IMPORTED LLAMA**

- Shall be accompanied by an official CVI
- Shall be tested negative for Bluetongue within 30 days prior to entry
- Shall be negative to an official tuberculosis test within 60 days prior to entry. Camelids to be imported that originate from an accredited-free state or zone shall be exempt from testing.
- All camelids to be imported six months of age or over shall be negative to an official brucellosis test within 30 days prior to entry. Neutered male camelids are exempt from testing.

NEW JERSEY POULTRY:

- Shall be accompanied by an official CVI, AHC, VS Form 9-2 or 9-3, or a 4-H Poultry, Rabbit, or Cavy Health Form
- * All poultry, including exhibition, exotic, and game birds (including ostrich, emu and rhea but excluding waterfowl) going to public exhibitions in New Jersey shall originate from U.S. Pullorum-Typhoid clean or equivalent flocks, OR
- * All poultry over 4 months of age shall have an individual Pullorum-Typhoid test within 90 days prior to the exhibit.
 - Turkeys shall be blood tested at more than 12 weeks of age
 - Game birds shall be tested when more than 4 months of age or upon reaching sexual maturity, whichever comes first
 - Ostrich, emu, rhea and cassowaries shall be blood tested when more than 12 months of age. All ostrich, emus, rhea and cassowaries less than twelve months shall originate from Pullorum-Typhoid negative flocks.
- * All birds less than four months of age shall originate from Pullorum-Typhoid negative flocks (the individual test is not valid for birds in this age group)

A list of 2008 New Jersey certified pullorum testers will be available for distribution on April 15, 2008.

***IMPORTED POULTRY:**

- Shall be accompanied by an official CVI or VS Form 9-2 or 9-3
- All poultry, including exhibition, exotic, and game birds (including ostrich, emu and rhea but excluding waterfowl) shall originate from U.S. Pullorum-Typhoid clean or equivalent flocks, or
- All poultry over 4 months of age shall have an individual Pullorum-Typhoid test within 90 days prior to the exhibit. See testing information below:
 - Turkeys shall be blood tested at more than 12 weeks of age
 - Game birds shall be tested when more than 4 months of age or upon reaching sexual maturity, whichever comes first.
 - Ostrich, emu, rhea and cassowaries shall be blood tested when more than 12 months of age. All ostrich, emus, rhea and cassowaries under twelve months shall originate from Pullorum-Typhoid negative flocks.
- All birds less than four months of age shall originate from Pullorum-Typhoid negative flocks (the individual test is not valid for birds in this age group).
- All poultry and hatching eggs originating from areas or counties with confirmed cases of Avian Influenza must obtain a permit number for entry. This number must appear on the original health certificate or VS Form 9-2 or 9-3 issued by an accredited veterinarian. Permits may be obtained by contacting the New Jersey Department of Agriculture, Division of Animal Health, at (609) 292-3965, Monday-Friday, 8:45 a.m.-4:45 p.m.

Please note: Concerns regarding Avian Influenza virus continue. In order to protect the State's poultry industry, the NJDA recommends that fair/show management adopt rules that require all poultry and hatching eggs to be exhibited be accompanied by certification that they are free from Avian Influenza, regardless of where the birds originated.